

Town of New Fairfield
Board of Finance
4 Brush Hill Road
New Fairfield, CT 06812

MINUTES

Board of Finance Meeting

Wednesday, April 9, 2008

7:30 PM

New Fairfield High School Library

Members present:

Joe Hart, Chairman
Lucy DiRocco
Jane Landers
Al Mardis
Wes Marsh
Tom Wahlig
Art Azzarito, Alternate
Brian Shea, Alternate
Tony Sanches, Alternate

Other Town Officials Present:

John Hodge, First Selectman
Ron Oliveri, Selectman
Tom Corbett, Selectman
Jay Waterman, Finance Director
Ed Sbordone, Finance Department
Janice Zackeo, Town Clerk
Dr. Joseph Castagnola, Superintendent of Schools
John Boccuzzi, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Mike Santogatta, Director of Management Services
Phil Ross, Director of Buildings and Grounds
Alicia Roy, High School Principal
Dr. Diane Hartman Chesley, Middle School Principal
Sarah McLain, Meeting House Hill School Principal
Carrie Kilian, Meeting House Hill School Assistant Principal
Wendy Seeley, Consolidated School Principal
Lynn Fichtel, Consolidated School Assistant Principal
Aimee Turner, Elementary Special Education Supervisor
Kim Hanson, BOE Chairman
Karen Chance, BOE member
Vic Flagello, BOE member
Ralph Langham, BOE member

Call To Order Chairman Joe Hart called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Appointments None

Correspondence and Announcements

Joe Hart announced that he received an e-mail from Library Board Chairman Sarah Marsh regarding the library renovation. This will be on the agenda for the next regular BOF meeting of April 16th.

BOF-Minutes
04/09/08

Joe Hart spoke of correspondence following up on an e-mail from the April 2nd meeting about the school building project. This will be addressed later on in the meeting.

Public Comment

Board of Education Chairman Kim Hanson spoke of his personal priorities for cuts to the budget.

Approval of Minutes

Joe Hart made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 2, 2008 meeting as presented. Al Mardis seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Discuss and vote on 2008/2009 recommended budget

Joe Hart went over a list of previously recommended cuts that he would like to see back in the budget. Members of the Board of Finance gave their comments regarding specific line items. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the budget line items.

There was a discussion regarding whether or not money needs to be put in the 2008-2009 for services from the architect and construction managers for the potential school projects.

Joe Hart made a motion to endorse the list of reductions as previously discussed. Al Mardis seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Wes Marsh made a motion to amend the previous motion to remove \$20,000 from Technology Equipment. Jane Landers seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-2-0 (Motion approved)

(Wes Marsh, Jane Landers, Al Mardis and Tom Wahlig in favor)

(Joe Hart and Lucy DiRocco opposed)

Wes Marsh made a motion to amend the original motion to reduce the Technology para in the amount of \$25,000. Lucy DiRocco seconded the motion.

Vote: 1-4-1 (Motion denied)

(Wes Marsh in favor, Joe Hart, Lucy DiRocco, Jane Landers and

Tom Wahlig opposed, Al Mardis abstained)

Recess

Joe Hart made a motion to take a recess at 9:10pm in order to finalize the numbers for the final mark up. Al Mardis seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Joe Hart made a motion to reconvene the meeting at 10:44pm. Al Mardis seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Vote on final Mark Up

Joe Hart made a motion to recommend to a Town Meeting the Board of Finance recommended budget consisting of the following. Municipal expenditures totaling \$9,938,920 from the General Fund, municipal expenditures from the Capital and Nonrecurring Fund \$904,950 and \$773,171 from other governmental funds and Educational expenditures from the General and Capital and Nonrecurring Fund totaling \$34,904,144 which results in a Mil Rate increase of 3.41% and 20.64 Mils. Al Mardis seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)

Public Comment

Resident Rudy Bahrens spoke of the school budget in New Fairfield

First Selectman John Hodge, Director of Parks and Recreation Steve Merullo and Parks and Recreation Commission Chairman Ray Lubus individually spoke of the need for bathrooms and a concession stand at the turf field. First Selectman Hodge noted that he would like to see this as a separate line item question on the referendum for budget vote.

Board Member Comments

Members of the Board of Finance spoke of the budget process. The BOF members thanked everyone involved in the budget process and acknowledged all their hard work.

Adjournment

Al Mardis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:09pm. Jane Landers seconded the motion.

Vote: 6-0-0 (Motion approved)